

**MINUTES  
FORT MYERS BEACH  
MARINE RESOURCES TASK FORCE**

Town Hall – Council Chambers  
2523 Estero Boulevard  
Fort Myers Beach, FL 33931

**Wednesday, December 10, 2014**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Veach. Members present: Tree Andre, Cheryl Clark, Cristina Denegre, Glen Thompson, Bill Veach, and Keri Weeg.  
Staff present: Keith Laakkonen  
Council Liaison: Dan Andre

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. INVOCATION**

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of November 12, 2014**

Tabled until next meeting.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

**VI. NEW ITEMS**

No new items.

**VII. CURRENT ITEMS**

**A. Beachscape Program (Veach)**

Chair Veach revealed that Council approved beach access plantings. Chair Veach and Mr. Laakkonen will work with Mr. Baker to identify locations.

**B. Adopt a Beach (Andre)**

Ms. Andre provided a draft of the program. She indicated that Bud Nocera from the Chamber of Commerce offered to include a flyer with the Chamber mailing to advertise the program. Ms. Weeg volunteered to provide publicity in the Sand Paper. Consensus was reached to include the flyer in the January Chamber of Commerce mailing. Discussion was held concerning training participants, t-shirts, contact numbers, and brochure content.

**C. Community Outreach/MRTF Event (Weeg)**

Ms. Weeg reported that she spoke to Bonnie Roberts and Ms. Roberts offered to partner with MRTF for a "Celebrate your Earth Mother" event on May 9, 2015. Ms. Weeg stated that MRTF would contribute funds for the band. Discussion was held regarding sponsorship, budget, speakers, water quality information, and booth materials.

#### D. Newspaper Articles (Veach)

Chair Veach noted an article on plants recently ran in the paper. Ms. Andre suggested focusing on the environment of Fort Myers Beach. Ms. Clark discussed volunteer opportunities at Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve.

#### E. FAQs (Weeg)

Mr. Laakkonen stated that FAQs would be on the MRTF website soon.

#### F. Informational Sticker for Rental Boats (Clark)

Ms. Clark and Ms. Denegre stated they would deliver stickers.

#### G. Brochure Distribution (all)

Mr. Laakkonen corrected the error and will have it reprinted.

#### H. Canals (Thompson)

Chair Veach reported that Council approved researching the cost to update the Hans Wilson report of 2003. Mr. Laakkonen indicated that Mr. Wilson would provide a proposal and an estimate. Mr. Thompson discussed research involving aerators to reduce muck. Discussion was held concerning various methods to improve the canals.

#### I. Investigate Clean Beach Certifications (Veach)

In progress.

#### J. Branding for Nature/Ecotourism (Veach)

Chair Veach stated he drafted a document. Ms. Andre provided Chair Veach with information from the Visitor's Convention Bureau. Chair Veach stated he would like to provide a bird and shell guide for beach accesses and parks. Mr. Laakkonen suggested utilizing QR codes. Chair Veach stated he would bring the issue to Council for feedback.

#### K. Mulholland Award (all)

Mr. Laakkonen provided a nomination form. Discussion was held regarding the deadline, nominations, and publicity.

L. Local Water Quality Initiates - Rain Gardening Promotion (Veach/Weeg)

In progress.

### **VIII. MEMBER ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Mr. Laakkonen pointed out that after Chair Veach wrote the Red Knot article, the US Fish and Wildlife Service officially listed the Red Knot as a threatened species.

### **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

### **X. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

No change.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Ms. Weeg moved to adjourn; second by Ms. Andre.

**VOTE:** Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Adopted 1/14/15 with/without changes. Motion by Ms. Weeg  
(DATE)

Vote: 6/0 Signature: [Signature]

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